

**LESSONS THIS QUARTER**

- 1) 04 Dec ..... Num 1:1-8:26..... Stay True to Your Commitments
- 2) 11 Dec ..... Num 9:1-10:10..... Stay on Track with God's GPS
- 3) 18 Dec ..... Num 10:11-15:41..... Stay Fearless in Your Obedience**
- 4) 25 Dec ..... Num 24:15-19; Mat 1:1-2:23..... The Messiah has Come
- 5) 01 Jan 2012 ..... Num 16:1-25:18..... Stay Grateful for God's Care
- 6) 08 Jan ..... Num 26:1-36:13..... Stay Focused on the Goal
- 7) 15 Jan ..... Deut 5;19;24; Mat 5..... Be Resolute about Life's value
- 8) 22 Jan ..... Deut 1:1-4:43..... Be Exclusive
- 9) 29 Jan ..... Deut 4:44-11:32..... Be Passionate
- 10) 05 Feb ..... Deut 12:1-16:17..... Be Different
- 11) 12 Feb ..... Deut 16:18-26:19..... Be Honest and Fair
- 12) 19 Feb ..... Deut 27:1-30:20..... Be Repentant
- 13) 26 Feb ..... Deut 31:1-34:12..... Be Positive

**INTRODUCTION**

- The Jews were a pain from start to finish during the Exodus – but realize not every Jew was a willing follower (or believer) in Yahweh
- The wicked saw God do mighty things and they received blessings while under God's protection; The Righteous, however, often suffered the fate of the wicked when the wicked were judged by God

Passage	Comments
Numbers 10:11-36	<p><b>It's Time to Move?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• vv11-12. After 1 year at Mt Sinai, the Cloud lifted from over the Tabernacle signifying it was time to pack up and move out to a new area – an orderly 3 day journey to the 'wilderness of Paran' – the home territory of Ishmael (Genesis 21:21), Isaac's stepbrother</li> <li>• vv29-31. Moses tried to convince Hobab (son-in-law or brother-in-law) to stay and help direct him possibly to safe and plentiful watering holes and away from dangerous communities                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ Why did Moses place his trust in a man and not in the Cloud or in God's attending Angel (Exodus 14:19; 23:20; 23:23;32:34)?</li> <li>♦ God did not provide Moses with every answer. Jethro, for example, provided Moses with management advice (divide the people into 10s and 50s, and 100s and 1,000s – Exodus 18)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
11:1-35	<p><b>"...and the people complained"</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• v1. God's fire consumed some of the outskirts of the camp                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ The complainers (possible foreigners residing with the unclean in the outskirts) quickly enticed others to join in their bickering - Complaining is contagious, disrupting, and even dangerous</li> </ul> </li> <li>• vv4, 15. The complainers were greedy, and Moses wanted to die                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ Trying to please those who are never happy is a weariness</li> </ul> </li> <li>• vv17, 25. God's remedy – share the work with other believers                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ vv19-20 – Be careful what you pray for, you may get it along with leanness of soul ..... Psalms 106:15</li> </ul> </li> <li>• v23. Is the Lord's power limited? Is anything too hard for Him? ...NO</li> <li>• vv31-33. There was enough quail to cover the ground 3 feet deep in a radius of a day's journey (about 20-25 miles all around) – and God struck the greedy with a plague – possibly food poisoning?</li> </ul>
12:1-16	<p><b>Mixed Marriages Addressed</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The journey was delayed until Miriam's healing and restoration was completed. God's people can't move forward till sin is fixed</li> </ul>
13:1-33	<p><b>The First Spy Agency (FSA)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 12 spies (Israel's best) were sent into the "land of milk &amp; honey" to reconnoiter enemy resources of food, fortresses, &amp; fighters</li> <li>• v28. The Jews focused on the gigantic-looking obstacles and not on the affirmed promises of God (similar to Peter looking at the height of the waves around him and not on Jesus, Matthew 14:30)</li> </ul>
14:1-45	<p><b>"...let's shoot the messenger"</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This is the 10<sup>th</sup> time of grumbling – they had established a pattern "...and the people said 'let's stone Moses and Aaron'"</li> <li>• While God's forgiveness is greater than our sins – wrongdoing and rebellion – and delivers us from eternal judgment, we often must bear sin's temporal consequences – in this case, people died early</li> </ul>
15:1-36	<p><b>Sacrifices for Sins</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More Burnt, Freewill, Grain, Drink, and Peace Offerings</li> <li>• vv15-16. Repeat of having 1 statue for the Jews &amp; believing aliens</li> <li>• v24-30. Even unintentional/accidental sins were to be accounted for - Ignorance of the Law is no excuse!</li> <li>• v30-36. However, intentional sins are equated to Blasphemy                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ Recall Blasphemy against the Holy Spirit is unpardonable</li> <li>♦ Gathering firewood on the Sabbath called for the death penalty</li> <li>♦ Recall the Sabbath was a Covenant God made only with the Jews, and it was to the death ..... Exodus 31:14-18; 35:2</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

Passage	Comments
15:37-41	<p><b>Introduction to a Key Piece of Wardrobe – The Prayer Shawl</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Shawl was made as a visual reminder of God and His Law</li> <li>• <b>Blue thread</b> – skyward focused on God. One thread of each of the four corner tassels was to be a deep blue color to remind them of their duty to keep the law</li> <li>• <b>Jewish Tradition.</b> There were 39 windings in each tassel, which equates to the numerical value of the Hebrew words "the Lord is One" or Yahweh</li> <li>• There are 613 knots in every one of these tassels corresponding to the 613 laws in the Law of Moses! 365 were <u>probations</u> – "Thy shall NOT" and 248 were <u>affirmations</u> – "Thy shall!"</li> <li>• The Jewish men wore this garment called a, "Talith", aka Jewish Prayer-Shawl, all the time, not just at prayer. "Talith" contains two Hebrew words; TAL meaning <u>tent</u> and ITH meaning <u>little</u>. Thus, each man had his own "Little Tent"</li> <li>• <b>Acts 18:3.</b> The apostle Paul was a Jewish Pharisee, but also a "tentmaker". Many believe he made Taliths or Prayer-Shawls, not tents to live in</li> <li>• <b>Matthew 6:6.</b> Enter into your prayer closet – for the Jew this occurred when the shawl was pulled over their head</li> <li>• <b>Matthew 23:5.</b> Pharisees considered the tassels special marks of sanctity and sought to enlarge them to display their righteousness</li> <li>• <b>Note.</b> Since the four windings on the four corner tassels correspond to the Holy Name of God, when holding or viewing or touching the tassels we are embracing symbolically the entire Word of God, all the commands of God, and the Name of God, so we are in essence, embracing God, Himself                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ <b>Mark 5:25-34</b> – A woman with a bleeding disorder grabs the tassels of Jesus' shawl, believing by faith she would be touching God and God would respond by touching her</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Revelations 19:11-16</b> – The rider's name is on his thigh</li> <li>• The "Greek" mindset imagines a tattoo or something similar on the thigh of Jesus when he returns as "King of Kings, and Lord of Lords". The Hebrew mindset sees something more specific: Since, the knots of the tassels on the four corners of a Talith spell out the name of Yahweh, therefore, while riding a white horse on His return to earth, the braids/knots/tassels/fringes of Yeshua's Talith (prayer shawl) rest on one or both of His upper legs allowing His NAME to be seen where? On His thigh</li> <li>• <b>Genesis 49:10-12.</b> His robe was stained with blood</li> <li>• <b>Revelations 19:13.</b> His robe was dipped in blood                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ This seems to show the once-placid prayer shawl, which was used to procure God's favor through prayer, now signifies God's wrath is come upon the world</li> </ul> </li> </ul>



**CONCLUSION/APPLICATIONS**

- God wants serious believers, not half-hearted worshippers
- The Jews had a unique Sabbath covenant with God tied to the Land of Israel, but we too, can enjoy side benefits of honoring the Sabbath
  - ♦ Restorative rest; worship and reflection on God and our place in His kingdom; repenting and recommitting to be God's faithful servant

**NEXT WEEK:**

Numbers 24:15-19; Mat 1:1-2:23 – Christmas message



**Numbers** – A simple 9 day journey took 38 years because of their whining and moaning against the God who rescued them